

PATENT
450118-02282**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-22 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 16, and 19-22 are independent. Claims 1-13, 16, and 19-22 are hereby amended. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which the Applicants are entitled.

The Title is hereby amended.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as indefinite. Claims 1-13, 16, and 19-22 are hereby amended, obviating the rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that the term "normalization" is described in the Specification from page 12, line 15 to page 13, line 18. The term "predetermined time" is also described in the Specification in Fig. 18 and its description.

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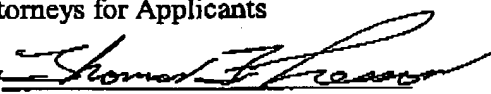
CONCLUSION

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,
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